

FDA/Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)

January 11, 2000

DOCKET No. 97N-0074

5630 Fishers Lane 9 7 2 2 '00 JAN 19 P5:09

Room 1061

Rockville, MD 20852

To the FDA/Dockets Management Branch,

I am writing to express my concern about DOCKET No. 97N-0074, reducing egg borne diseases by prohibiting forced molting. According to an article in Avian Diseases 1995, "feed withdrawal from turkeys and chickens" has long been shown to markedly increase contamination with both Salmonella and Campylobacter. The birds look for other food sources during feed withdrawal, eating litter [the contaminated material the birds are forced to live in] when they are hungry." Since hens being starved in their cages do not have access to litter, they are driven to "pluck and consume" cage mates' contaminated feathers" (Avian Diseases 1995, 39:248).

Your attention to this matter is appreciated. I also request that you respond to my concerns.

Sincerely,



Kim A. Woodbridge

304 S. 23rd St. #22

Philadelphia, PA 19103

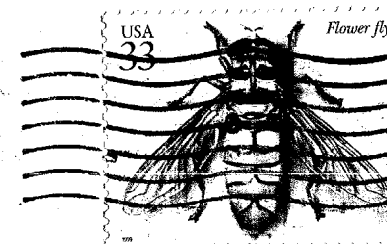
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97N-0074

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